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RONALD O.	NEERINGS	COURTENAY III, ST JOHN		
TEXAS INSTRUMENTS INCORPORATED				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)				
	09/822,748	GARY, SCOTT PAUL				
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit				
	St. John Courtenay III	2194				
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply						
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).						
Status						
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 February 2005.						
	action is non-final.					
3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is						
closed in accordance with the practice under E	closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.					
Disposition of Claims						
4)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-45</u> is/are pending in the application.						
4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.						
5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.						
6)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-45</u> is/are rejected.						
7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.						
8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or	election requirement.					
Application Papers						
9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.						
10)⊠ The drawing(s) filed on <u>09 July 2001</u> is/are: a)⊠ accepted or b)□ objected to by the Examiner.						
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).						
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).						
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.						
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119						
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.						
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage 						
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).						
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.						
		Soft In				
Attachment(s)		ST. JOHN COURTENAY III				
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) Interview Summary (PRIMARY EXAMINER (PTO-413)				
2) Dotice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Paper No(s)/Mail Date						
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date	5) Motice of Informal Pa	atent Application (PTO-152)				
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Response to Amendment

Applicant has added the new limitation of "decoding the remote procedure call and calling the program" to the independent claims. The Examiner has conducted an electronic keyword search of Applicant's entire specification, and has located only the following support for the newly claimed "decoding" limitation:

See instant specification, page 28, lines 7-13:

Additional, internal RM Server functions are described below. The following internal RM Server functions are prior art with respect to the invention.

The RMS_rpc function is a simple function dispatcher. It is an infinite loop that reads Dispatcher RPC commands from the GPP, <u>decodes</u> them, <u>calls the indicated server action</u>, and then returns to the top of the loop to get the next command. It runs as a task of the RTOS, '(i.e., it is the task execute function for the RM Server Dispatcher), and has no arguments or return value.

As shown above, the newly claimed decoding limitation is admitted prior art (APA) by Applicant.

Where the specification identifies work done by another as "prior art," the subject matter so identified is treated as admitted prior art. *In re Nomiya*, 509 F.2d 566, 571, 184 USPQ 607, 611 (CCPA 1975) (holding applicant's labeling of two figures in the application drawings as "prior art" to be an admission that what was pictured was prior art relative to applicant's improvement).

The Examiner disagrees with Applicant's contention that there is no motivation to combine the teachings of IBM-TDM and Weiser, or Jones references [see Applicant's response, page 11].

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Obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either explicitly or implicitly in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. "The test for an implicit showing is what the combined teachings, knowledge of one of ordinary skill in the art, and the nature of the problem to be solved as a whole would have suggested to those of ordinary skill in the art." In re Kotzab, 217 F.3d 1365, 1370, 55 USPQ2d 1313, 1317 (Fed. Cir. 2000).

With respect to Weiser, the Examiner maintains that it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of IBM-TDB and Weiser because Weiser's step of writing to the memory space of the second processor would provide low overhead data transfer to IBM-TDB'S system.

With respect to Jones, the Examiner maintains that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to improve upon the system taught by IBM-TDB by implementing the improvements detailed above because it would provide IBM-TDB's system with the enhanced capability of a remote resource planner that supports management of resources on the remote machine [e.g., see Jones, paragraph 0060].

With respect to newly amended claims 3, 19, and 44: Weiser discloses the executing step includes the program permitting the first data processor to write to a memory space associated with the second data processor (col. 8 lines 65-67, col. 9), wherein the program permits the first data processor to set

configuration parameters of the second data processor [e.g., see

"For instance, the called procedure may cause the device 90 to <u>have its memory written</u> (write mem 352), memory read (read mem 353), or memory deleted (delete mem 354). Alternatively, the called procedure may establish or reset the definition of a user-defined-function (respectively set func 355 and reset func 356), write text to the display (display text 357), or generate a sequence of tones from the piezo-speaker (tones 358). Other user defined procedure function calls may also be utilized if necessary or desired (Other funcs 351), and additional functions can be added to extend the functionality of **decode proc 350** by use of a call to new func 349." and associated discussion col. 8, beginning line 65, discussion cont'd col. 9, lines 1-9].

New Grounds of Rejection

Applicant's remarks have been considered, but are deemed to be moot in view of the new grounds of rejection necessitated by Applicant's amendments to the claims. New grounds of rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 are set forth below.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which the subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 2, 16, 27, 31-33, 35 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over IBM - Technical Disclosure Bulletin, "Remote Procedure Calls for an Attached Processor" Vol. 35, issue 1B, pages 237-238, June 1, 1992 (U.S. Patent) in view of Jones et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0007389, and further in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (see instant specification, page 28, lines 7-13, as discussed above).

As per claim 1:

IBM-TDB discloses the invention substantially as claimed:

IBM-TDB teaches the invention as claimed including a method of using a first data processor (p. 1 line 2, "main processor") to manage resources of a second data processor (p. 1 line 2, "an attached processor") which performs data processing functions that support user applications (p. 1 line 3), comprising:

- the first data processor making a remote procedure call to the second data processor to invoke on the second data processor a program (p. 1 lines 1-2. and 13-16); and
- the second data processor executing the program in response to the remote procedure call (p. 1 lines 24-28).

However, IBM-TDB does not *explicitly* teach the following additional limitations:

Jones teaches the use of a program on the second data processor that supports management of data processing resources of the second data processor [e.g, see:

[0060] FIG. 9 is a flowchart illustrating the steps that are performed when an activity requests a resource reservation for a remote resource. The process begins with a local activity requesting a reservation for a remote resource (step 110 in FIG. 9). This may occur, for instance, when a resource set that contains references to some remote resources (as well as possibly some local resources) is passed a RequestResources() call to the local resource planner. Such sets may result from resource query calls to modules implemented by remote objects or via remote procedure calls. The local resource planner receives the request and forwards the request to the remote resource planner for the machine on which the remote resource is found (step 112 in FIG. 9). The remote resource planner processes the request and sends a response back to the local resource planner (step 114 in FIG. 9). The local resource planner receives the response and forwards it to the requesting activity (step 116 in FIG. 9).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to improve upon the system taught by IBM-TDB by implementing the improvements detailed above because it would provide IBM-TDB's system with the enhanced capability of a remote resource planner that supports management of resources on the remote machine [e.g., see Jones, paragraph 0060].

However, IBM-TDB and Jones do not *explicitly* teach the following additional limitations:

APA teaches the executing step includes the second data processor decoding the remote procedure call and calling the program, as claimed.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to improve upon the system taught by IBM-TDB, as modified by Jones, by implementing the improvements detailed above because it would provide the IBM-TDB/ Jones system with the enhanced capability of "a simple function dispatcher" [instant specification, page 28, line 9].

As to claim 2:

IBM-TDB teaches the invention as claimed including the step of making a second data processor (p. 1 lines 15-16), (p. 1 lines 24-28).

As to claims 16 and 27, they are rejected for the same reasons as claim 1 above.

As to claim 31, IBM-TDB teaches a man/machine interface coupled to the first data processor for permitting communications between the first data processor and a user (e.g. p. 1 lines 13-16, the keyboard and monitor typically attached to the computer system described throughout).

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As to claim 32, IBM-TDB teaches the man/machine interface includes one of a tactile interface (e.g. the keyboard) and a visual interface (e.g. the monitor).

As to claim 33, IBM-TDB teaches the communication path extends through a data network (as in the typical use of RPC p. 1 lines 6-7).

As to claim 35, IBM-TDB teaches the first and second data processors are located remotely from one another (p. 1 line 2 as implied by the typical use of RPC in a networked environment p. 1 lines 6-7).

As to claim 36, IBM-TDB teaches that the man/machine interface coupled to the first data processor for permitting communications between the first data processor and a user (e.g. the keyboard and monitor typically attached to the computer system described throughout).

Claims 3, 4, 12, 14, 15, 19, 26, 37, 44 and 45 are rejected under U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over IBM - Technical Disclosure Bulletin, "Remote Procedure Calls for an Attached Processor" Vol. 35, issue 1B, pages 237-238, June 1, 1992, in view of Jones et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0007389, as applied to claims 1, 16, and 27 above, and further in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (see instant specification, page 28, lines 7-13, as discussed above), and further in view of Weiser (U.S. Patent 5,786,819).

As to claims 3, 19, and 44, IBM-TDB, as modified by Jones and APA, does not explicitly disclose the executing step includes the

program permitting the first data processor to write to a memory space associated with the second data processor. Weiser discloses the executing step includes the program permitting the first data processor to write to a memory space associated with the second data processor (col. 8 lines 65-67, col. 9), wherein the program permits the first data processor to set configuration parameters of the second data processor [e.g., see "For instance, the called procedure may cause the device 90 to have its memory written (write mem 352), memory read (read mem 353), or memory deleted (delete mem 354). Alternatively, the called procedure may establish or reset the definition of a user-defined-function (respectively set func 355 and reset func 356), write text to the display (display text 357), or generate a sequence of tones from the piezo-speaker (tones 358). Other user defined procedure function calls may also be utilized if necessary or desired (Other funcs 351), and additional functions can be added to extend the functionality of decode proc 350 by use of a call to new func 349." and associated discussion col. 8, beginning line 65, discussion cont'd col. 9, lines 1-9].

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of IBM-TDB and Jones and APA and Weiser because Weiser's step of writing to the memory space of the second processor would provide low overhead data transfer to IBM-TDB'S system.

As to claims 4 and 45, Weiser discloses the first data processor downloading a further program to the memory space in conjunction with operation of the first-mentioned program - See col. 9 lines 33-40:

In a typical operating session, after receiving a number of RPC type packets, the device 90 might contain <u>new executable code</u> and data that is loaded into its memory. A "call user function 326" request such as previously discussed will establish one of these pieces of code in such a way that it is called from the processor main-loop. The device 90 can now execute this newly loaded code, which may include features such as sending IR packets to some other device in response to pressing the switches. As previously discussed, the <u>ability to download data and executable applications on demand permits</u> simple updating of data files and lists such as might be needed for an

electronic address book. For example, new data can be downloaded into the electronic diary or the data management executable of the electronic diary can itself be changed. This would greatly increase the flexibility of data presentation.

As to claims 12, 26, and 37, IBM-TDB does not disclose the executing step includes the program permitting the first data processor to read from a memory space associated with the second data processor. Weiser discloses the executing step includes the program permitting the first data processor to read from a memory space associated with the second data processor (col. 8 lines 65-67).

As to claim 14, IBM-TDB does not disclose providing the program in a memory space of the second data processor. Weiser discloses providing the program in a memory space of the second data processor (col. 9 lines 1-9).

As to claim 15, IBM-TDB does not disclose the providing step includes making a remote procedure call to the second data process to invoke on the second data processor a further program and, in response to the remote procedure call, the second data processor executing the further program to download the first-mentioned program into the memory space of the second data processor. Weiser discloses the providing step includes making a remote procedure call to the second data process to invoke on the second data processor a further program and, in response to the remote procedure call, the second data processor executing the further program to download the first-mentioned program into the memory space of the second data processor (See col. 9 lines 1-9 where the procedure to be executed is called via RPC/RMI; see also the rejection of claims 4 & 45 above).

Claims 5, 6, 20, 21, 38, and 39 are rejected under U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over IBM - Technical Disclosure Bulletin, "Remote Procedure Calls for an Attached Processor" Vol. 35, issue 1B, pages 237-238, June 1, 1992, in view of Jones et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0007389, as applied to claims 1, 16, and 27 above, and further in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (see instant specification, page 28, lines 7-13, as discussed above), and further in view of Engdahl (U.S. Pat. 5,452,42).

As to claims 5, 20, and 38, IBM-TDB, as modified by Jones and APA, does not disclose the executing step includes the program providing information indicative of a capability of the second data processor. Engdahl discloses the executing step includes the program providing information indicative of a capability of the second data processor (col. 29 lines 3-7).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of IBM-TDB & Jones & APA with Engdahl because Engdahl's capability information would improve the decision making of IBM-TDB'S system by allowing it to know exactly the capability of the processor in the system.

As to claims 6, 21, and 39, Engdahl discloses the capability information includes information indicative of a native character size of the second data processor (col. 29 lines 3-7).

Claims 7, 22, and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over IBM - Technical Disclosure Bulletin, "Remote Procedure Calls for an Attached Processor" Vol. 35, issue

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1B, pages 237-238, June 1, 1992 in view of Jones et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0007389, and further in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (see instant specification, page 28, lines 7-13, as discussed above), and further in view of Engdahl (5,452,420) as applied to claims 1, 5, 16, 20, 27, and 38 above, and further in view of Menezes (5,621,894).

As to claims 7, 22, and 41, IBM-TDB, Jones, APA, and Engdahl do not disclose the capability information includes information indicative of an operating system of the second data processor. Menezes discloses the capability information includes information indicative of an operating system of the second data processor (col. 3 lines 1-18).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of IDM-TDB, Jones, APA, Engdahl, and Menezes because Menezes's information about the second data processor's operating system would improve IBM-TDB'S and Engdahl's system by allowing it to know what type of OS is running on the second data processor.

Claims 8, 23, and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over IBM - Technical Disclosure Bulletin, "Remote Procedure Calls for an Attached Processor" Vol. 35, issue 1B, pages 237-238, June 1, 1992 in view of Jones et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0007389, and further in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (see instant specification, page 28, lines 7-13, as discussed above), and further in view of Engdahl (5,452,420) as applied to claims 1, 5, 16, 20, 27, and 38 above, and further in view of Jayakumar (5,904,733).

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As to claims 8, 23, 40 IBM-TDB, Jones, APA and Engdahl do not disclose the capability information includes information that identifies the second data processor.

Jayaktlmar discloses the capability information includes information that identifies the second data processor (col. 6 lines 3-6).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of IBM-TDB, Jones, APA, Engdahl, and Jayakumar because being able to uniquely identify processors would allow the first processor to communicate with multiple 2nd processors.

Claims 9, 24, and 42 are rejected under U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over IBM - Technical Disclosure Bulletin, "Remote Procedure Calls for an Attached Processor" Vol. 35, issue 1B, pages 237-238, June 1, 1992 in view of Jones et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0007389, as applied to claims 1, 16, and 27 above, and further in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (see instant specification, page 28, lines 7-13, as discussed above), and further in view of Brady (5,724,418).

As to claims 9, 24, and 42, IBM-TDB & Jones & APA do not disclose the executing step includes the program activating a desired communication protocol for communication between the first and second data processors. Brady discloses the executing step includes the program activating a desired communication protocol for communication between the first and second data processors (col. 7 line 17-23).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of IBM-TDB & Jones & APA with Brady because the communications

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protocol of Brady would facilitate the exchange of data between the processors of IBM-TDB's system.

Claims 10, 11, 25, and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over IBM - Technical Disclosure Bulletin, "Remote Procedure Calls for an Attached Processor" Vol. 35, issue 1B, pages 237-238, June 1, 1992 in view of Jones et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0007389, as applied to claims 1, 16, and 27 above, and further in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (see instant specification, page 28, lines 7-13, as discussed above), and further in view of Schreiber (5,787,281).

As to claims 10, 25, and 43 IBM-TDB & Jones & APA do not disclose the executing step includes the program changing the runtime priority associated with a data processing function of the second data processor. Schreiber discloses the executing step includes the program changing the runtime priority associated with a data processing function of the second data processor (col. 7 lines 1-5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of IBM-TDB & Jones & APA with Schreiber because the ability to change the runtime priority would let the system of IBM-TDB manage distributed workloads and allow for remote process management.

As to claim 11, IBM-TDB does not disclose the changing step includes one of pausing and resuming the data processing function. Schreiber discloses the changing step includes one of pausing and resuming the data processing function (col. 7 lines 1-5).

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Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over IBM - Technical Disclosure Bulletin, "Remote Procedure Calls for an Attached Processor" Vol. 35, issue 1B, pages 237-238, June 1, 1992 in view of Jones et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0007389, as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (see instant specification, page 28, lines 7-13, as discussed above), and further in view of Nozue (5,890,189).

As to claim 13, IBM-TDB & Jones & APA do not disclose the step of making a remote procedure call includes the first data processor providing to the second data processor a remote procedure call

command which includes an address that points to a locations of the program in a memory space of the second data processor.

Nozue discloses the step of making a remote procedure call includes the first data processor providing to the second data processor a remote procedure call command which includes an address that points to a location of the program in a memory space of the second data processor (col. 46 lines 27-36).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of IBM-TDB & Jones & APA with Nozue because sending a pointer as taught by Nozue would allow the system of IBM-TDB to call RPC functions by address instead of function name reducing the size of the RPC message.

Claims 17, 18, and 28-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over IBM - Technical Disclosure Bulletin, "Remote Procedure Calls for an Attached Processor" Vol. 35, issue 1B, pages 237-238, June 1, 1992 in view of Jones et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0007389, as applied to

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claims 16 and 27 above, and further in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (see instant specification, page 28, lines 7-13, as discussed above), and further in view of Sitrick (5,728,960).

As to claims 17 and 28, IBM-TDB as modified by Jones & APA does not disclose the apparatus provided as a single integrated circuit chip. Sitrick discloses the apparatus as a single integrated circuit chip (col. 16 lines 63-65).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of IBM-TDB & Jones & APA with Sitlick because packaging the IBM-TDB's system as a single integrated circuit would lower it's power requirements and footprint.

As to claim 18, IBM-TDB does not disclose the integrated circuit chip is one of a microprocessor chip and a digital siral processor chip. Sitrick discloses the integrated circuit chip is one of a microprocessor chip and a digital signal processor chip (col. 16 lines 63-65

As to claim 29, it is rejected for the same reason as claim 36 above.

As to claim 30, IBM-TDB does not disclose the first data processor is one of a microprocessor and a digital signal processor, and the second data processor is one of a microprocessor and a digital signal processor. Sitrick discloses the first data processor is one of a microprocessor and a digital signal processor, and the second data processor is one of a microprocessor and a digital signal processor (col. 16 lines 63-65).

Claim 34 is rejected under U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over IBM - Technical Disclosure Bulletin, "Remote Procedure Calls

for an Attached Processor" Vol. 35, issue 1B, pages 237-238, June 1, 1992 in view of Jones et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0007389, and further in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (see instant specification, page 28, lines 7-13, as discussed above).

As to claim 34, it is rejected for the same reasons as claim 33 above, however the cited references do not explicitly disclose the data network is the Internet. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the method taught by IBM-TDB and Jones where the data network that was used was the Internet because the use of the Internet would allow robust communication between processing devices dispersed over large geographical areas.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See **MPEP § 706.07(a)**. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in **37 CFR 1.136(a)**.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to **37 CFR 1.136(a)** will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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How to Contact the Examiner:

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to St. John Courtenay III, whose telephone number is 571-272-3761. A voice mail service is also available at this number. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, An Meng-AI who can be reached on 571-272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

All responses sent by U.S. Mail should be mailed to:

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PTO CENTRAL FAX NUMBER: 703-872-9306

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist: (571) 272-2100.

T. JOHN COURTENAY IN PRIMARY EXAMINER